

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     CAPE T 01273 171519Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PC-05 CU-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07  
    INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 MCT-01 DHA-02  
    AID-05 CCO-00 FBOE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02  
    OC-06 OPR-02 PA-02 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 SCSE-00  
    OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05 DODE-00 USIA-15 /110 W  
    ----- 045104 /46

R 171438Z DEC 76  
FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5534  
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 1273

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SF  
SUBJ: SECURITY INCIDENTS IN THE CAPE

SUMMARY: RELATIVE CALM OF CAPE TOWN AND OTHER URBAN CENTERS  
IN CAPE CONTINUES TO BE PUNCTUATED BY PERIODIC INCIDENTS  
OF PROTEST AND VIOLENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 4-6 SAW CLASHES BETWEEN YOUNG BLACKS  
AND MIGRANT WORKERS IN NYANGA TOWNSHIP OUTSIDE CAPE TOWN  
IN WHICH TWO PERSONS WERE REPORTED KILLED AND 12 INJURED,  
AND 15 OR MORE HOUSES BURNED. WORKERS WERE SAID TO HAVE  
ATTACKED STUDENTS IN REACTION TO STUDENTS' EFFORTS (UN-  
EFFECTIVE) TO MOUNT 2-DAY WORK BOYCOTT AND THEIR SETTING FIRE  
TO A WORKERS' HOSTEL THOUGHT TO BE A STORAGE SITE OF  
ILLEGAL LIQUOR.

2. ALLEGED SUICIDE OF MR. GEORGE BOTHA, 30 YEAR-OLD "COLORED"  
TEACHER AT HIGH SCHOOL IN PORT ELIZABETH HAS PROMPTED CALL FROM  
LABOR PARTY LEADER SONNY LEON FOR INVESTIGATION BY GENEVA-  
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PAGE 02     CAPE T 01273 171519Z

BASED INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS. ACCORDING PRESS  
REPORTS, BOTHA ARRESTED BY SECURITY POLICE DECEMBER 10. HIS  
WIFE WAS INFORMED DECEMBER 15 THAT HE HAS COMMITTED SUICIDE  
BY JUMPING DOWN INTERIOR STAIRWELL FROM SIXTH FLOOR OF  
BUILDING IN PORT ELIZABETH WHICH HOUSES SECURITY POLICY  
HEADQUARTERS. ACCORDING PRESS REPORTS, SECURITY POLICE

CHIEF MAJ-GEN. GELDENHUYS CONFIRMED REPORTS OF BOTHA'S DEATH. A LEADING COLORED CLERGYMAN IN PORT ELIZABETH, MR. SAM ABRAHAMS, WAS ALSO REPORTED DETAINED ON DECEMBER 10. NEWS OF MR. BOTHA'S DEATH CAME JUST AFTER PUBLICATION OF A STUDY BY THE INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS ON THE EARLIER DEATHS OF 8 DETAINEES THIS YEAR AND THE IRR'S CALL FOR A HIGH-LEVEL INVESTIGATION.

3. IN CAPE TOWN, "PAMPHLET BOMBS" WERE EXPLODED DECEMBER 14 AT TWO LOCATIONS IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY DURING THE LUNCH HOUR AND DURING THE EVENING RUSH HOUR AT A MOWBRAY BUS STATION HEAVILY USED BY BLACKS. LEAFLETS PURPORTING TO BE FROM BANNED AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS WERE SCATTERED OVER WIDE AREA AND EAGERLY SNATCHED UP BY ONLOOKERS.

4. IN EFFORT TO BREAK EDUCATION DEADLOCK CAUSED BY STUDENTS' SCHOOL BOYCOTT IN CAPE TOWN BLACK TOWNSHIPS SINCE LAST JULY (CAPE TOWN 1092) BANTU EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT TEACHERS WILL BE AT SCHOOL JANUARY 5 OT OFFER 6-WEEK CRASH COURSE TO ENABLE STUDENTS TO COMPLETE 1976 SYALLABUS AND TAKE EXAMS IN FEBRUARY WITHOUT PAYING FURTHER ENTRANCE FEES. THOSE WHO FAIL THAT EXAM CAN RECEIVE SPECIAL TUITION TO PREPARE FOR EXAMS TO BE GIVEN IN NOVEMBER NEXT YEAR. DIRECTOR OF BANTU EDUCATION HAS SAID HIS DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD DISCUSSIONS ON "REAL PROBLEMS OF BLACK EDUCATION" (HE DID NOT SAY WITH WHOM DISCUSSIONS WILL BE HELD) AND APPEALED FOR STUDENTS TO END BOYCOTT AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CHANCE TO MAKE UP LOST TIME. STUDENT RESPONSE REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECURITY, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, MIGRATORY WORKERS, CIVIL DISORDERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** schwenja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <30 AUG 2004 by schwenja>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SECURITY INCIDENTS IN THE CAPE SUMMARY: RELATIVE CALM OF CAPE TOWN AND OTHER URBAN CENTERS IN CAPE CONTINUES TO BE PUNCTUATED BY PERIODIC INC  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, SF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006